

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 01213 152132Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03  
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06  
TRSE-00 SAJ-01 NSC-05 H-01 DODE-00 /076 W  
-----152138Z 053814 /73

R 151753Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9012  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
AMCONSUL TANGIER  
USEC BRUSSELS  
USMISSION NATO  
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1213

E.O.11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PFOR, SP, NATO GI, UK  
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ON SPAIN AND NATO

1. DURING A CALL BY THE DCM, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S  
DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR EUROPEAN AND ATLANTIC AFFAIRS (ELIAS)  
NOTED THAT CERTAIN NATO MEMBERS (HE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED  
THE US AND MENTIONED DEMARK AND NORWAY) CONTINUED TO  
VIEW THE QUESTION OF EVENTUAL SPANISH ADHERENCE WITH "THE  
OLD MENTALITY", ACCORDING TO WHICH ONCE SPAIN HAD  
ADEQUATELY CLEANSED ITSELF POLITICALLY THE NATO MEMBERS  
WOULD "MAGNANIMOUSLY" ALLOW IT TO JOIN. IN FACT, SAID  
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ELIAS, THE SUBJECT WAS BETTER SEEN IN THE CONTEXT OF MUTUAL  
INTEREST, IN WHICH BOTH SIDES IDENTIFIED SPECIFIC  
BENEFITS TO BE REAPED BY SPANISH MEMBERSHIP. HE ADMITTED  
THAT SPAIN WOULD HAVE TO ESTABLISH ITS DEMOCRATIC CREDENTIALS  
BEFORE THE ISSUE CAME TO A HEAD, BUT NOTED THIS WOULD OCCUR  
VERY SOON, (THE DCM NOTED THE US POSITION OF SUPPORT  
FOR EVENTUAL SPANISH MEMBERSHIP, INCLUDING THE POINT THAT

THE MATTER WAS TO BE DECIDED BY THE TWO AND THAT  
NEITHER HAD YET TAKEN A DECISION.)

2. ALIAS WENT ON TO POINT OUT THAT THE GIBRALTER ISSUE  
WAS A VERY DIFFICULT ONE FOR SPAIN IN THIS REGARD, HE  
DID NOT BELIEVE, HE SAID THAT ANY SPANISH GOVT OF ANY  
IDEOLOGICAL HUE COULD ACCEPT NATO MEMBERSHIP WITHOUT SOME  
KIND OF MOVEMENT TOWARD RESOLUTION OF THE GIBRALTAR.  
PROBLEM (HE REFERRED TO GIBRALTAR AS "A NATO BASE"). HE  
THOUGHT THE CONTINUED EVOLUTION OF SPANISH POLITICS WOULD  
EASE CONSIDERABLY ONE OF BRITIAN'S PROBLEMS, AND HE  
EXPRESSED ABSOLUTE BELIEF IN THE SINCERITY OF THE BRITISH  
POSITION THAT GIBRALTAR WOULD NOT BE TURNED OVER TO SPAIN  
UNLESS THE PEOPLE OF GIBRALTAR APPROVED SUCH A CHANGE.  
REGARDING CURRENT SPANISH RESTRICTION AGAINST GIBRALTAR,  
ELIAS SIAD THERE WAS NO WAY THEY COULD BE REMOVED OR  
DECREASED UNILATERALLY SINCE "FRIENDLY GESTURES" ARE USELESS  
"THERE ARE NO FRIEND", ONLY INTEREST.

3. REGARDING AN EVENTUAL SPANISH DECISION ON NATO  
MEMBERSHIP, ELIAS DOUBTED THAT ONE WOULD BE TAKEN IN  
VACUO, RATHER IT WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN ON THE BASIS  
OF, AND FOLLOWING A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF "CONTACTS" OR  
TALKS BETWEEN SPAIN AND NATO. IN OWN JUDGEMENT,  
HOWEVER, HE SAID SUMMING UP THE MATTER, HE BELIEVED THERE  
WAS A DISTINCT PROBABILITY" THAT SPAIN'S ADHERENCE TO  
NATO WOULD EVENTUALLY COME ABOUT.STABLER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEMBERSHIP, INDEPENDENCE, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS, MILITARY BASES, RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MADRID01213  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ON SPAIN AND NATO  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SP, GI, UK, NATO  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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